



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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# **Peoples Voices Drowned Out by the Pen of Executive Power**

ONTARIO, CA – President Obama's designation of three new nation monuments, wholly or partly, within San Bernardino County amounts to highway robbery according to County Supervisor Curt Hagman (4th District).

"Senator Diane Feinstein introduced Senate Bill 414 to accomplish these objectives two years ago," noted Hagman. "Congress has been actively deliberating options since then, and Congressman Paul Cook proposed a similar measure, last year that provided congress with another option to protect these areas in San Bernardino County while preserving our vital mineral rights. Pulling the rug out from under the legislative process when you don't get your way, frankly, is wrong. President Obama is thumbing his nose at the people of San Bernardino County as well as the United States Congress by simply taking these lands from us with a stroke of his pen."

The County wrote President Obama on August 21, 2015 requesting that any national monument designation go through the legislative process. The County also expressed serious concerns that the monument designation withdraws lands from mineral entry, and noted that the Castle Mountain gold mining project alone would provide \$ 7 million in revenue for the state and county along with creating 271 badly needed jobs for San Bernardino County residents at peak operation.

"It is disappointing that San Bernardino County's legitimate concerns were ignored by the federal government through the President's unilateral establishment of these monuments," said Hagman. "Government of the people, by the people and for the people means those elected as our representatives in Congress serve to stand for the collective voices of their constituents; this does not mean the president should trample the voices of citizens through executive action and sidestep the legislative process at his pleasure".

News of President Obama's executive action was announced to the County earlier this morning. Twenty-two national monuments have been designated under the current administration. The proclamations related to the designations will not be released until later today.

Supervisor Curt Hagman has represented the Fourth Supervisorial District since December 2014. Prior to his election as County Supervisor, Curt Hagman served as a State Assemblyman for three terms. He is married to Grace and has two children, Jonathan and Elizabeth. In addition to his public service, Curt is also a small business owner and a member of the California State Military Reserve.

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